

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

January 14, 2002
LAW OFFICES OF JONATHAN ALAN QUINE

By: *Chianti Applying*

Atty Docket No: 407T-895411US

Client Ref: UC 92-206-3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re application of:

PAUL A. PRICE and JULIA S. JOHANSEN

Application No.: **09/215,077**

Filed: **12/18/1998**

For: **ASSAY FOR YKL-40 AS A MARKER
FOR CANCER**

Examiner: B. Nguyen

Art Unit: 1641

RECEIVED

FEB 14 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 13, 2001, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

The following documents are enclosed herewith:

- 1) A petition to extend the period of response for three months; and
- 2) An Information Disclosure Statement (PTO 1449 form).

Please amend the specification and/or claims as follows

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims by substituting the following claims for the corresponding previously pending claims of the same number(s):

1. A method of screening for the presence of cirrhosis of the liver in a mammal, said method comprising measuring the level of YKL-40 in a biological sample of the mammal and comparing the level to that of a normal, healthy mammal, wherein a statistically significant difference is an indicator for the presence of cirrhosis of the liver..

These amendments are made without prejudice and are not to be construed as abandonment of the previously claimed subject matter or agreement with the Examiner's position. In